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8-16-02  
B. Hillard

Atty. Dkt. No. 016778-0407

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Daigo TAGUCHI, et al.

Title: SCENARIO EDITING DEVICE CAPABLE OF AUTOMATICALLY  
SUPPLEMENTING SCENARIO ON THE BASIS OF RECEIVED  
ADDITIONAL DATA

Appl. No.: 09/520,240

Filing Date: March 7, 2000

**RECEIVED**

JUL 24 2002

Technology Center 2100

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 2773

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned prosecuting the present application submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on a translation of the foreign examiners' comments. Specifically, the reference was cited in a Japanese Office Action dated April 23, 2002 from the Japanese Patent Office. An English translation of a portion of the Japanese Office Action citing the reference follows:

The inventions as per the following claims of this application could have been easily invented based on the inventions described in the publications indicated below which had been distributed in Japan or abroad prior to the filing of this application by a person having ordinary knowledge in the technical field of the invention prior to the filing of this application, and therefore cannot be patented, as per the stipulations of Article 29, Section 2 of the Patent Law.

Description (See the List of Cited Literature for a list of cited literature.)

- Claims: 1 through 15
- Cited Literature: 1
- Remarks:

The aforementioned Cited Literature 1 states: "For the vacant seat information data stored in the vacant seat information part 1220, vacant seat information indicating the vacant seats among the seats for which seating is designated at transportation agencies or the like, and a pointer indicating the storage location of the corresponding seating diagram data are stored. For the vacant seat information, here, data is stored which identifies the seats that are vacant for all service routes during the reception period. For example, in the case of railroads, the service date, train number, train name, car number, car type, seat number (including bed and private cabin) may be included as the vacant seat information." ([0051]); "In this situation, the vacant seat is displayed with emphasis and the seating diagram is shown on the display device 221. ([0069]); and "The main computer 100, upon receiving a ticket purchase instruction, deletes the seat designated by that ticket from the vacant seat information data 1220." ([0075]), indicates scenario-based rules (seating diagram data) and scenario degree-of-completion information (empty seats are displayed with emphasis and the seating diagram is shown).

#### List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H09-134340

#### Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

- Fields searched IPC 7<sup>th</sup> Edition G06F 17/30  
DB Name
- Prior art literature      Japanese Unexamined Patent Application  
Publication H10-254958

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.

This submission of a portion of a translation of a Japanese Office Action should not be seen as an indication that applicants agree or acquiesce with the characterization of the references by the Japanese Patent Office.

An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has not been provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609). English language abstracts of the foreign-language documents are provided.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date July 23, 2002 By Thomas J. Beloborod Reg. No. 83,458

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>O I P</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <b>JUL 23 2002</b> <b>Date Submitted: July 23, 2002</b> <b>(use as many sheets as necessary)</b>		Application Number	09/520,240
		Filing Date	March 7, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Daigo TAGUCHI
		Group Art Unit	2773
		Examiner Name	Unknown
		Attorney Docket Number	016778-0407

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

**RECEIVED**

JUL 24 2002

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

#### **OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.